

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/603,927	NAKASHIBA, YASUTAKA	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Nhan T. Tran	2615	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 11/15/2005 & examiner's amendment on 12/12/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-25.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
|---|--|

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 11/15/2005, with respect to claims 1-25 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Roland E. Long on 12/12/2005.

Regarding **claim 15**, the last limitation of claim 15 has been amended as:

--said first wiring and said first light shielding film layer are provided in said first level--.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-25 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding independent claim 1, the prior of record fails to teach or fairly suggest the combination of all limitations required in claim 1 that includes "...a **logic circuit part on said**

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semiconductor substrate, said logic circuit part including a plurality of transistors to manipulate an electrical signal produced from said photoelectric conversion part and having a first wiring formed at said first level, a light shielding layer covering said logic circuit part, and a light shielding film defining region incidence on said photoelectric conversion region, wherein said light shielding film is formed at said first level and provided at a height closer to said semiconductor substrate than said light shielding layer.”

Regarding independent claim 13, the prior of record also fails to teach or fairly suggest the combination of all limitations required in claim 13 that includes “...**a logic circuit part receiving and handling said electrical signal and having a first wiring formed at said first level, photoelectric conversion part said logic circuit part being on said semiconductor substrate; a light shielding layer covering the logic circuit part; and a light shielding film covering said photoelectric conversion part, wherein said light shielding film is formed at said first level and provided at a height closer to said semiconductor substrate than said light shielding layer.”**

Regarding independent claim 15, the prior of record also fails to teach or fairly suggest the combination of all limitations required in claim 15 that includes “...**a first wiring provided in at least one of said first and second circuit parts; a first light shielding layer covering said image sensor part; and a second light shielding layer covering said first and second circuit parts, wherein, said first light shielding layer is provided closer to said semiconductor substrate than said second light shielding layer, and said first wiring and said first light shielding layer are provided in said first level.”**

Regarding claims 2-12, 17, 20 & 23, these claims depend from claim 1.

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Regarding claims 14, 18, 21 & 24, these claims depend from claim 13.

Regarding claims 16, 19, 22 & 25, these claims depend from claim 15.

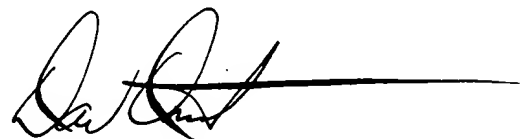
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nhan T. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-7371. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, 7:30am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Ometz can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



DAVID OMETZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER